

## GREAT CHESTERFORD PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF A MEETING OF GREAT CHESTERFORD PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 12<sup>TH</sup> 2016 AT 7:30PM IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, GREAT CHESTERFORD

**Present:** Neil Gregory  
Collette Altaparmakova  
Simon Witney  
Tom Newcombe  
Alan Cattley – Clerk

Sharon Tricerri  
David Hall  
Gareth Bevens

#### **16/144. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Julie Redfern and Matt Rowan.

#### **16/145. Declarations of Interest**

None received.

#### **16/146. Minutes of the Last Meeting.**

After amending the wording of 16/130 to read “*unauthorised* access”, the minutes of the meeting held on September 14th 2016 were signed as a correct record of events.

#### **16/147 Public Forum**

There were no members of the public present.

#### **16/148 Planning.**

It was noted that applications UTT/16/2636/LB and UTT/16/2635/HHF had been withdrawn; no comment was therefore necessary.

It was noted that the removal of a hedge despite a condition in a planning application was merely a breach of planning whereas the same removal in breach of a TPO was a criminal offence. It was not usual practice for a TPO to be granted in respect of a hedge and it was unlikely that UDC would change their opinion.

Cllr. Newcombe would attempt to ascertain whether the hedgerows surrounding the Caravan site qualified as “ancient hedgerow” in which case certain protections were available. A check would also be made of the Local Character Assessment made for the Neighbourhood Plan.

It was also noted that Troy Navigus had written to the PC advising that they had also been appointed to work on UDC’s local plan. It was the opinion of the PC that this constituted a conflict of interest and it was decided to write to them expressing this view and to reserve our rights. NG

#### **16/149 Emergency Plan.**

The existing plan was circulated and it was felt that it was in need of review. It was decided to seek volunteers to assist with the work involved via the village Google group. NG

#### **16/150 Neighbourhood Plan.**

It was reported that Cllr. Redfern was to hold a meeting in the next two weeks with the intention of placing orders and instructions for further work.

**16/151 Local Plan.**

It was decided to call a meeting as soon as UDC's decision on site selection was known.  
Cllr. Newcombe was to ask Birketts to undertake a search to ascertain whether there were any parties with interests in the land to the north of the village..

**16/152 Preschool.**

Cllr. Altaparmakova had organised a meeting for Friday morning to look at the plans with the architect.  
It was noted that discussions with the Community Centre about the possible revenue implications would be held when their requested three year finance plan was presented in November.  
It was commented that the PC was fortunate to have the voluntary assistance of Elfreda Tealby-Watson in this project and thanks were extended to her and Cllr. Altaparmakova for all their hard work so far.

**16/153 Highways.**

No response had been received to the PC's request to meet a representative from the Crocus Medical Practice. Cllr. Hall will speak to one of the practice partners.  
Cllr. Bevens had spoken to Gary Collins of UDC's enforcement department; their response is still awaited.  
Essex Highways have been asked to suggest parking options; none has yet been received.  
A speed and usage measurements have been requested for Spencer Road and Rookery Close.  
There had been no progress this month on cycle paths.

**16/154 Administrative boundaries.**

Concerns were raised in discussion about, inter alia, the quality and level of services received from Essex County council and related bodies, notably Essex Police and various health related bodies. The difficulties with school admission and transport this year were noted.

Cllr Bevens agreed to develop the work he had carried out some years ago and consult with DCLG about the options potentially open to the parish.

**16/155 Outdoor Gym.**

Cllr. Witney had prepared a grant application for the Communities Initiative Fund and £1500 had already been received from the Genome Centre. An entry in the vote for funding from Aviva would also be made.

Cllr. Bevens was to assemble a group of interested parties and an early meeting with Derek Jones and Peter Fentem.

**16/156 Finance.**

To receipts and payments report was noted without comment.  
The 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter accounts were discussed, and the clerk requested to check that all funds due from ECC in respect of the allotment project had been received.

**16/157 New Website.**

Work was continuing and it was suggested that photographs of the Steam Up be included.  
It was hoped that the site would go live by the 1<sup>st</sup> of December

**16/158 Queen's birthday celebration.**

The Picnic in the Park to celebrate the Queen's birthday was considered an excellent occasion and the PC unanimously passed a vote of thanks to the W.I. for their work and organisation of the day.  
It was suggested that similar events might be organised to mark future occasions.

**16/159 Community Orchard**

It was agreed to release the budgeted figure of £600 to allow planting to begin. Allotment holders would be asked to assist with the planting and Ann Piper for advice on the selection of suitable varieties.

**16/142 Matters for further discussion.**

The leases for allotment holders would be available in time for them to be signed at the Allotment Association's AGM to be held on Monday.

**16/143 Date of Next Meeting.**

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at 7:30 in the Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 9:30pm

**Signed (Chairman).....**

**Date: 12<sup>th</sup> October 2016**